

PARK & RECREATION MINUTES
TUESDAY, APRIL 12, 2005
6:30 P.M.

Call to Order: The Parks and Recreation Board met on the above date and time in the Council Chambers, 270 West 15th Street, Rushville. President Denny Corn called the meeting to order. Members present were David Hasecuster, Jan Voiles, Wilma Jo Kile and Jack Harmon. Tim Shuppert was absent. Others present were Parks Director Danny Mathews, Attorney Julie Newhouse, Secretary Carla Sharpe, Pool Manager Anita Carfield and Assistant Pool Manager Jean Kopf.

Minutes: Minutes of March 8, 2005 was presented for approval. Harmon moved to approve the March 8th minutes as presented. Hasecuster seconded. Motion carried. Minutes approved.

Reports: Carfield stated that we had several applicants for the position of lifeguard this year and numerous applicants for concessions and front counter. After conducting hours of interviews, Kopf and I would like to propose that the following people be employed by Waggener Pool for the summer of 2005. Returning lifeguards include Georgia Osborne, Jessica Keller, Ryan Woods, Kayla Gentry, Katie Alspaugh, Keith Brashaber, Jake Marsh and Megan Turner. Nathan Talbott is a returning employee but will move from a concession's worker to the position of lifeguard. New lifeguards, who are presently working on certification, include Nathan, Cassandra Blevens, Joey Gentry, Marcus Gordon, Ryan Gruell, Emily Kemple, Carrie Redden and Morgan Walker. Proposed returning concession workers include Lance Connolly, Lauren Kopf, and Billy Wood. Proposed new concession workers include Susan Adams and Joel Wiley. Kile moved to approve the above list of applicants. Voiles seconded. Motion carried.

Pending board approval of the proposed employees for Waggener Community Pool, on Saturday, April 23, all returning lifeguards will be attending CPR recertification at Waggener Pool. All employees will stop by that morning to complete their paperwork for the upcoming season. CPR recertification will be conducted by Jesse McCleese. We would like to request a stipend of \$50 to Jesse for his time and effort in conducting this recertification. If this is approved, we would like to have this check to give him on the 23rd. Kile moved to approve the \$50 stipend to Jesse McCleese. Voiles seconded. Motion carried.

Carfield said she has been working on scheduling and preparing our calendar for the upcoming season. She has contacted the P.E. teachers about summer school and set the dates for the use of the pool in June for those classes. She has already been called at home about scheduling a pool party, so people are anxiously awaiting the opening of the pool.

Provided everything goes as planned, we hope to open the season on Memorial Day, Monday, May 30. Jean, Rita and I look forward to a good season and hope for nice warm weather.

Kopf asked Voiles if something could be put in the paper and give the community a "heads up" on the price increases at the pool. Voiles stated she will see that this gets in the paper.

Mathews then asked to hire Courtney Cameron as a Group Leader. She filled this position last year but would like to get her a little more money this year. She is asking for \$9.00 an hour and will take on the responsibility of cleaning Booker T. this summer. Mathews said the Mayor truly supports this. This is probably the last year for her to work at the Parks Department as this is her senior year in college. Voiles asked what her duties will be. Mathews said anything and everything. Mathews counts on her a lot. She sees work to do and she does it. She goes above and beyond. She shows great leadership. With her taking on Booker T., cleaning and maintaining it will relieve him for the summer. Voiles asked how this salary compares to the other departments. Mathews stated that last year she received \$7.50 or \$7.75 an hour. This year he feels she is more than deserving of \$9.00. Chris Philpot is also taking on a leadership role now. Kile asked if this salary increase is okay with the salary ordinance. Mathews said yes with the job description of Group Leader and not Laborer there is money in the budget to support this.

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Reports Continued: Kile moved we hire Courtney at \$9.00. Harmon seconded. Motion carried. Mathews stated she will start the first of May on the weekends.

Claims Approval: Reviewed prior to meeting by Voiles and Harmon. Voiles asked what a 14 inch stone wheel was. Mathews stated that's what the Street Department used to remove the ramp at his new office. The Street Department saved them several thousands of dollars. Voiles said she thinks its admiral the way the departments work together. You should be commended.
Harmon questioned the claim for \$209 for the elevator and asked if the elevator had been fixed yet. Sharpe stated that they said the motor needed to be replaced. Paul Harr from the City Utilities was called and tested the motor and it was fine. Mr. Harr seemed to think it was the transformers as electricity was going into it but wasn't coming out. He suggested we contact an electrician. Roger Rosfeld looked at it and said there was plenty of electricity and suggested we contact an elevator company. Mayor Bridges got a name of a company and we called them and they are waiting on the plans for the elevator now and will fix soon. Sharpe received the plans today and will contact the guy to get it fixed.
Harmon then questioned the \$6,390 for a mower and wondered if this is an additional mower to the fleet or a replacement. Mathews stated no that this is the one that was budgeted last year as we are picking up the levy. Harmon moved to approve daims for the month of April. Voiles seconded. Motion carried. Claims approved.

Unfinished Business:

Approve Chemical Change Over at Pool – Mathews stated he called Plainfield and Mooresville. Plainfield has agreed to purchase our pellets. Donnie and Chris are going to school first of May and will deliver them. When calling those cities, they both said it was the best thing they have ever done switching over from pellets to the Clear Blue system. Mooresville switched to the new system two years ago. They guarantee it will save us money and that they have never been so happy.

Mathews stated that now that he has talked to the other cities he's completely convinced now to switch products especially if it keeps his employees from handling the chemicals. Harmon asked if a written proposal or contract with the new company has been written yet. Mathews stated we will have. We purchased the two t tanks and we will own them. Harmon questioned the operating procedures. Mathews stated they will come down and do a walk through training.

Harmon stated that nothing will change. Mathews stated no, they put the new tanks in and we own what's in the tanks. They will replace the Muratic Acid with Clear Blue. Harmon questioned any permit issues. Newhouse stated they should have permits for chemicals.

Harmon questioned the liability. Mathews will check with John Stater in the morning. Voiles stated that she understands that the two managers are very much in favor of the change.

Mathews stated they drained the pool down and the floor hasn't changed from last year. Mathews thinks it will go another year. Not a bit of difference. No pealing. There are a few little places that needed sanded but only sees a ½ hour job. Mathews said he is very happy this year.

Board said if Mathews feels it can wait then we will wait.

Kile moved to change to the Cool Blue System and have all necessary contracts in place. Hasecuster seconded. Motion carried.

Mathews stated he is very happy that he and his employees don't have to handle the chemicals anymore.

Review Master Plan – Discuss Survey - Sharpe stated that after getting the new plan guidelines from the DNR and in her spare time she has been working on this new plan. She has changed facts and figures and has been answering questions. She handed out what she has put together so far and informed the board if they want to make any additions or corrections to let her know. She also stated she went ahead and put together a survey but the questions can be changed. This is just something she put together real fast and suggested if anyone had any additions or corrections again, please let her know. She didn't do the rankings this year on the survey. Felt it would be much easier to circle the answers than the rankings that were done last time as that was complicated. Kile agreed and said that people will tend to fill out a one page survey. The last one was too long. Sharpe said that's why she made this simple. Sharpe asked the board to write down their priorities on paper and get back with her. When going back through the last 5 year plan, all of those goals have been accomplished. Mathews stated we have been very fortunate with receiving grants to do a lot of projects. A wish list needs to be made. Kile said to dream big! Kile said that where the old tennis courts was she feels there needs to be something there.

Unfinished Business Continued:

We also have to hold a public meeting to get the public’s input.

Kile said that 5 years ago when we were dreaming she thought we would never get all these things done and it has happened. We have accomplished a lot!

Harmon stated that the Rush County Players are also putting together a 5 year Master Plan and one of their goals is to work with the Parks and Recreation. They realize that arts are more than just theater. They would like to work in conjunction with the City along with the new park, new amphitheater, and one of their thoughts is to have a “Holiday at Home” theme on the holidays. Put together a lot of different art venues and have things going on in the amphitheater.

Newhouse suggested “Shakespeare in the Park”. Kids love that stuff!

Harmon stated that since both groups are doing a 5 year Master Plan that we try to marry them. We have the facilities, now lets concentrate this time around on the usage. He feels the two organizations can really work together. Board agreed.

The Board thanked Sharpe for her efforts.

New Business:

Hire Summer Employees – Mathews said he is ready to hire his summer employees and has a list but does not have the pay scale with him at this time. Corn suggested we do this at the next meet.

Discuss Amphitheater – Request for Wedding – Sharpe reported that the Mayor’s office has had a request for a wedding in June and they want to rent the Amphitheater.

Different rental fees were discussed.

Voiles moved to allow the wedding at the Amphitheater and set the rental fee at \$150.00 and a damage deposit of \$100.00. Kile seconded. Motion carried.

Skateboard Park Request – Sharpe explained that she had 10 kids in the Mayor’s office requesting new ramps in the skateboard park. Sharpe explained to the kids that the reason they haven’t put new pieces in the park is due to vandalism. We hate putting new ramps in the park and they get tore up. The kids have drawn up new plans for ramps and they want them made out of concrete. (Ramps and Steps) Sharpe shared with the board that if we put these concrete steps in the park then maybe these kids will stay off the steps at businesses. The kids are also requesting the cracks be sealed in the park and Mathews is in the process of getting a quote from Stanley’s on that.

Corn felt that with all the vandalism in the past he isn’t ready to add new ramps to get tore up.

Harmon stated he feels this board just wants to see that this park is not being tore up before we go and put more money into it.

Sharpe suggested addressing a skateboard question on the survey for the Master Plan.

The board suggested asking the kids to attend the next Parks Board meeting on May 10th.

There being no further business, Kile moved to adjourn. Voiles seconded. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:50 P.M.

DENNY CORN, PRESIDENT

JACK HARMON, VICE PRESIDENT

TIM SHUPPERT, MEMBER

WILMA JO KILE, MEMBER

JAN VOILES, MEMBER

DAVID HASECUSTER, MEMBER

ATTEST:

CARLA SHARPE, SECRETARY